

2021 House Education Committees Summer Study



Commissioner Penny Schwinn September 2021



ACADEMICS

ALL TENNESSEE STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION, NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE

STUDENT READINESS

TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL BE EQUIPPED TO SERVE THE ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS IN THEIR CAREER PATHWAYS

EDUCATORS

TENNESSEE WILL SET A NEW PATH FOR THE EDUCATION PROFESSION AND BE THE TOP STATE TO BECOME AND REMAIN A TEACHER AND LEADER FOR ALL



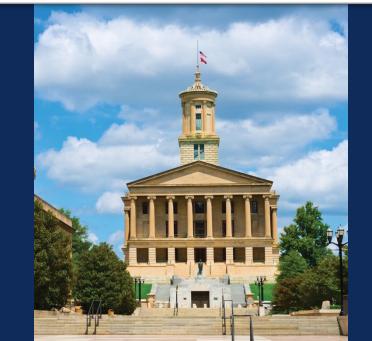


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Tennessee: Implementing Proactive Solutions for Students

Governor Bill Lee, the Tennessee General Assembly, educators, families and communities have made education a clear priority.

Tennessee has led the nation and already put strategic measures in motion to combat predicted impacts resulting from the pandemic.

Educators have made tremendous efforts to support children and keep on pace. While it will take time to see the full payoffs of these efforts, Tennesseans have demonstrated their commitment to accelerating student achievement.

Now, we can check early progress to help Tennessee students recover from pandemic disruptions and accelerate learning.

Tennessee Governor
Bill Lee called a
Special Legislative
Session on Education

The January 2021 special session addressed accountability, learning loss, literacy, and teacher pay

"We know that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused immense disruption for Tennessee's students, educators, and districts, and the challenges they face must be addressed urgently." - Governor Bill Lee







Tennessee Literacy Success Act

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, only one-third of Tennessee third graders were proficient in English Language Arts. **After nearly two years of COVID-19 disruptions in our schools, Spring 2021 TCAP results were consistent with the state's prediction that Tennessee's literacy challenge would persist**. In third grade, Tennessee saw a drop in ELA proficiency from 38% in 2019 to 32% in 2021.

The Tennessee Literacy Success Act set *proactive strategies* in motion to tackle our literacy challenge and combat additional negative impacts of the pandemic:

- Districts must use phonics-based literacy skills to teach reading
- Education Preparation Providers (EPPs) are required to provide training on foundational literacy skills
- Districts are required to create a Foundational Literacy Skills Plan to boost literacy for all students (plans were due June 1)
- TDOE is required to provide a free and optional Tennessee universal reading screener to help districts gauge student progress
- Districts and the department are required to report progress to parents, the legislature and the general public.



Foundational Literacy Skills Plan *Toolkit*

April 2021



Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation & Student Acceleration Act

 Established three types of summer programming to help students learn missed content



Summer Learning Camps

2021 & 2022



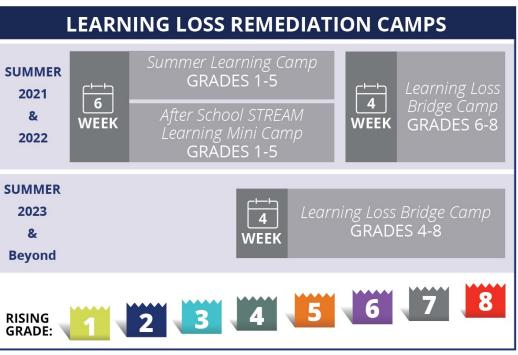
After School STREAM Camps

2021 & 2022



Learning Loss Bridge Camps

2023 & Beyond



- Established the **Tennessee Accelerating Literacy and Learning Corps (TN ALL Corps)** to ensure availability of qualified tutors for students, no matter where they live.
- Established a 3rd grade "reading gate" and provides students with additional time and academic support, such as retesting, participation in a learning loss bridge camp or a tutor through the ALL Corps for the entirety of 4th grade, before retention.

Accountability

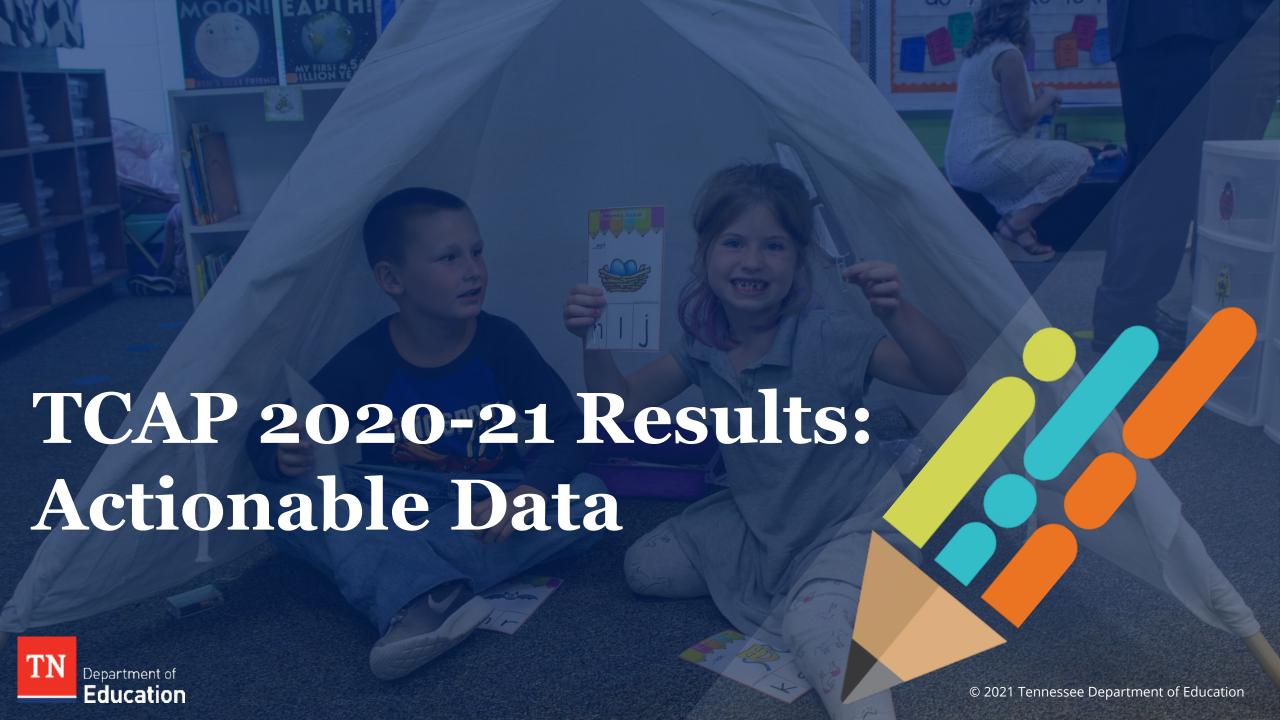
 In typical years, student assessment results are used in evaluation and accountability measures for educators, schools and districts.

The Accountability legislation set forth that, for those districts that met at least 80% student participation rate for spring TCAP assessments, assessment scores from the 2020-21 school year would NOT be incorporated into evaluations or accountability measures unless it benefitted the teacher, school or district.

Though the 2019-20 and 2021-21 school years were disrupted as a result of COVID-19, the state maintained a **strong commitment to** assessment in Spring 2021 to help us understand where our students are.







TCAP Results Demonstrate Urgent Need



- Districts and schools across Tennessee worked incredibly hard during the pandemic to provide services to our students.
- Both **schools and families demonstrated a shared commitment** to finding out how our students are performing by achieving a 95% student participation rate on the statewide Spring 2021 TCAP.
- Disruptions to education as a result of the pandemic have led to expected declines in academic proficiency in the state, across all subjects and grade bands. These declines were mitigated as a direct result of the hard work of our educators and families.
- While declines in proficiency were expected, families, school systems, and the public need access to
 information that will help drive strategic decision-making to support accelerating student achievement
 in the years to come.

Tennessee is well-prepared and will continue to focus on doing what's best for our kids.

Student Participation



State TCAP
PARTICIPATION RATE



100% of DISTRICTS
MET THE 80%
"hold harmless" target

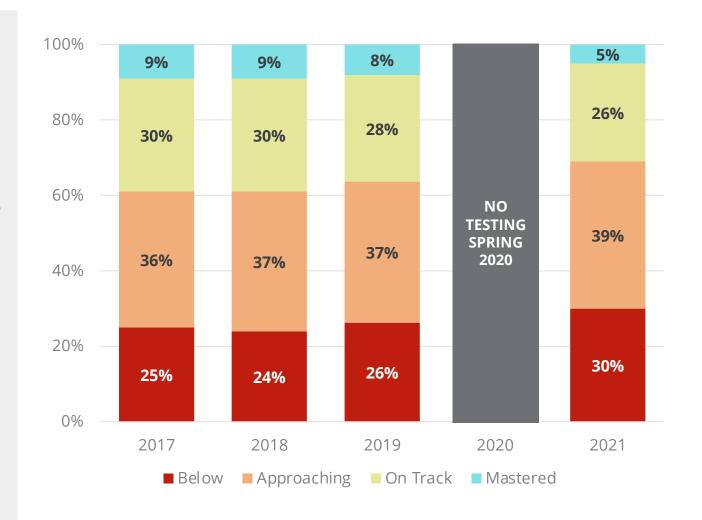


TCAP Spring 2021 Results: Combined Proficiency

OVERVIEW: ALL STUDENTS, GRADES & SUBJECTS

KEY TAKE-AWAYS

- 2020-21 TCAP data shows **decreases** in students scoring Mastered and On Track and increases in students scoring **Approaching** and **Below**.
- While this year's results track with state projections, the efforts of our state's leaders, educators and parents helped to prevent proficiency drops that some states have experienced as a result of the pandemic.
- Students whose scores were most negatively impacted were economically disadvantaged students, urban/suburban students, English learners, and students of color.
- **Proactive State Solutions:** 2021 Special Legislative Session legislation; Summer programming; Reading 360; TN ALL Corps; Innovative School Models; Student Support Grants; Grow Your Own; Family Resources

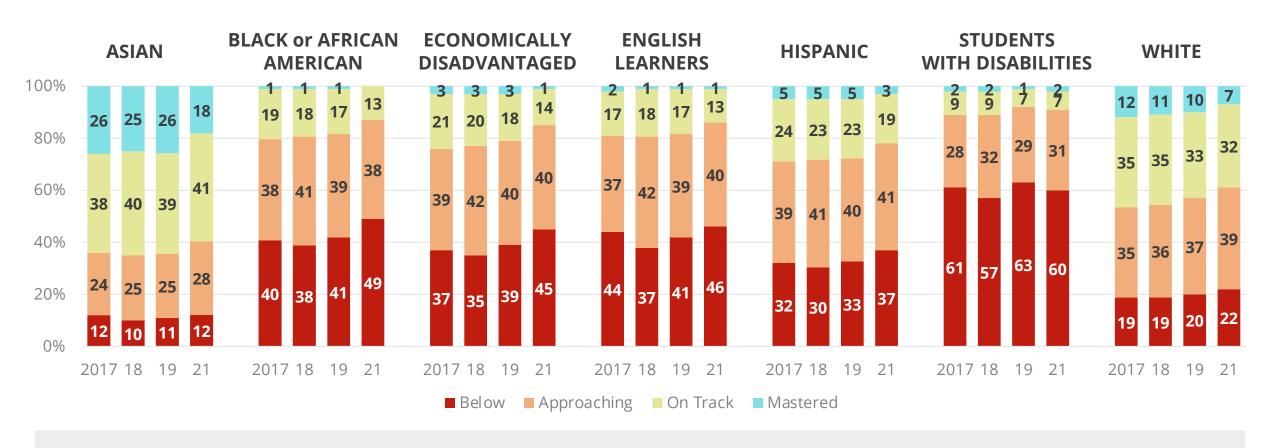


SOURCE: Tennessee Department of Education, 2021



TCAP Spring 2021 Results: Combined Proficiency

RESULTS BY STUDENT GROUP



Declining proficiency rates over the past five years have been a challenge across most student groups. Because children across the state experienced the pandemic differently, learning supports should be tailored and targeted to individual student needs.

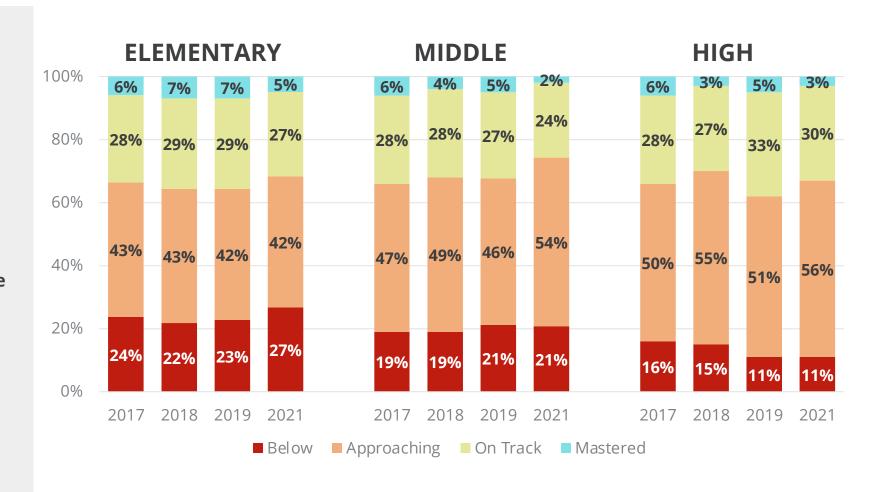


TCAP Spring 2021 Results: ELA

OVERVIEW

KEY TAKE-AWAYS

- 3 in 10 Tennessee students are meeting grade level expectations in English Language Arts (ELA).
- Only 1 in 7 economically disadvantaged students meets expectations.
- Overall proficiency in ELA dropped 5 points from 2019.
- In ELA, 2nd & 3rd grades scores show **large** increases in students scoring Below.
 - The rate of 2nd graders scoring **Below** increased 68%
 - The rate of 3rd graders scoring **Below** increased 47%
- Students scoring Below in 2nd and 3rd grades are typically those who are **not** able to read proficiently.



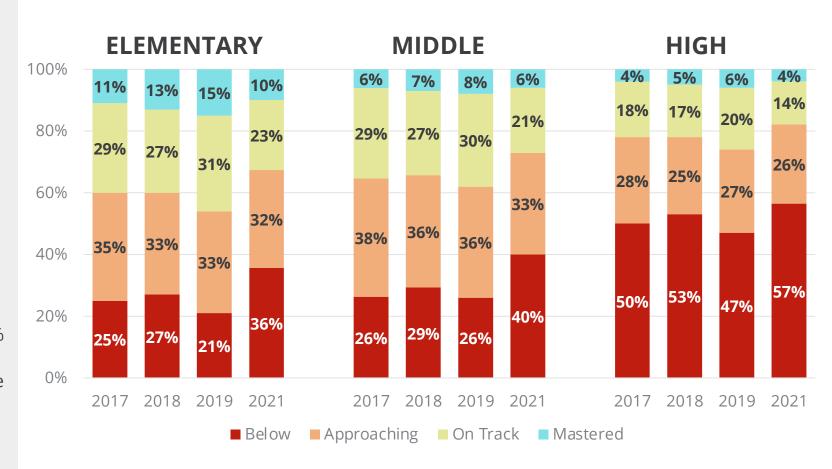


TCAP Spring 2021 Results: Math

OVERVIEW

KEY TAKE-AWAYS

- 1 in 4 Tennessee students is meeting grade level expectations in math.
- Only 1 in 10 economically disadvantaged students meets expectations.
- Consistent with national trends, math saw the sharpest declines of any subject area besides science, as projected. Overall proficiency dropped 12 points from 2019.
- Overall 3rd grade proficiency declined from 44% in 2019 to 31% in 2021. Overall 4th grade proficiency declined from 46% in 2019 to 34% in 2021.
- In middle school, districts on average saw the number of students in the **Below** category increase by 50%.

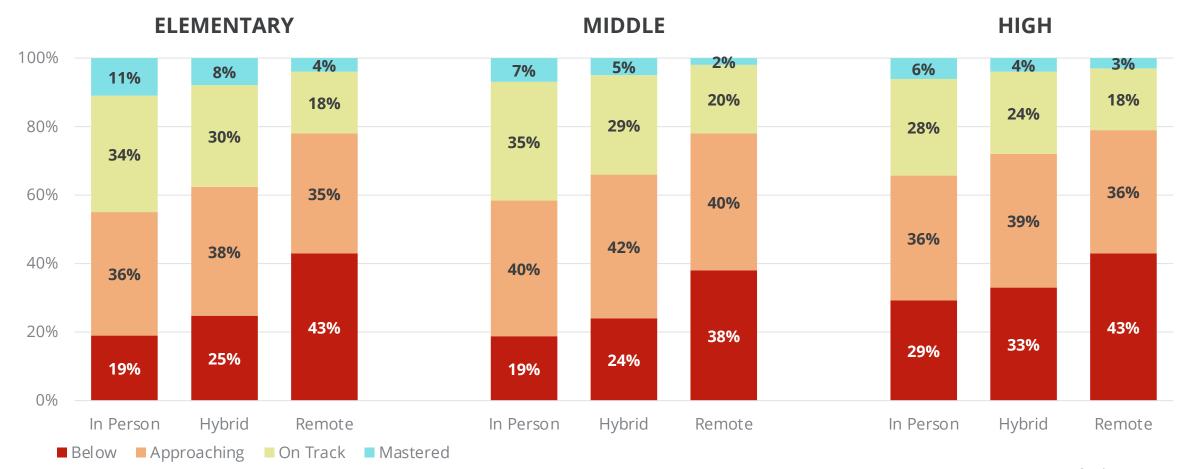




TCAP Spring 2021 Results: By Operating Model

Students learning in person were more likely to score **On Track** or **Mastered**.

Tennessee districts did exceptional work to keep school buildings open; however, even students attending in person may have missed classroom learning time due to quarantine, demonstrating the widespread impact of the pandemic.



Priority Areas of Concern Statewide



Early Elementary Reading/ELA is an area of concern, especially in those grades that do not have assessments or where public data is not shared. Significant declines are likely in kindergarten, 1st and grade reading, which creates more urgency in providing these students with additional literacy supports to ensure they are on-track to reading proficiently by 3rd grade.



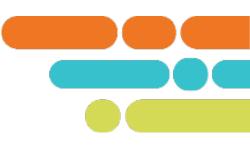
While math overall is a concern, **middle school math** is especially problematic. In 2020-21, fewer students demonstrated readiness for Algebra I (in addition to fewer students taking the Algebra I assessment), and these declines will potentially create long-term challenges with other high school courses that require a strong foundation in Algebra as well as ACT performance (therefore scholarship eligibility and post-secondary readiness).



Widening achievement gaps between student groups are clear, exacerbating a historical gap that has not significantly closed even as the state had seen performance increases. Specifically, economically disadvantaged students saw significant declines in proficiency, which has traditionally been more difficult to recover from. Students with Disabilities and English learners also reflected increased challenges as a result of the pandemic disruptions.



Accelerating TN Tour 2021: Summer Programming in Action





- The Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation and Student Acceleration Act set forward a path for students to receive additional instructional time and supports through summer camps beginning in summer 2021.
- In June 2021, Commissioner Schwinn, department staff, state and local elected officials, and community partners connected directly with students, educators, and stakeholders on the Accelerating TN Tour 2021 to learn more about how schools are accelerating student achievement and where additional supports and resources could be helpful.



WEEK 1: EAST TN

DAY 1: June 14

Johnson County Schools Bristol City Schools Sullivan County Schools Kingsport City Schools Washington County Schools

DAY 2: June 15

Jefferson County Schools Grainger County Schools Claiborne County Schools Scott County Schools Oneida Special School District

DAY 3: June 16

TN School for the Deaf Knox County Schools Sevier County Schools Blount County Schools Maryville City Schools Alcoa City Schools Clinton City Schools

DAY 4: June 17

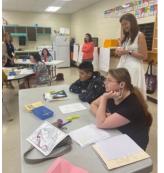
Etowah City Schools
Polk County Schools
Bradley County Schools
Cleveland City Schools
Hamilton County Schools























WEEK 2: WEST TN

DAY 1: June 21

Benton County Schools Hollow Rock-Bruceton Special School District Trenton Special School District Bradford Special School District Milan Special School District

DAY 2: June 22Tipton County Schools
Lauderdale County Schools
Haywood County Schools

















WEEK 3: MIDDLE TN

DAY 1: June 28

Trousdale County Schools Jackson County Schools Overton County Schools Pickett County Schools White County Schools Warren County Schools

DAY 2: June 29

Decatur County Schools
Perry County Schools
Maury County Schools
Williamson County Schools
Franklin Special School District
Metro Nashville Public Schools
Tennessee School for the Blind

DAY 3: June 30

Cheatham County Schools Dickson County Schools Sumner County Schools Wilson County Schools

DAY 4: July 1

Murfreesboro City Schools Rutherford County Schools Clarksville Montgomery County Schools





















Summer Camps: Attendance & Enrollment

 More than 120,000 students enrolled in first-ever statewide summer camps

Attendance	ED	Non-ED	Total	
Summer Learning & STREAM Camps	95.49%	96.96%	96.34%	
Learning Loss Bridge Camps	94.39%	95.85%	95.19%	
ALL	95.21%	96.70%	96.06%	

 Engaging families for student attendance was a district priority

Enrollment	ED	Non-ED	Total	
Summer Learning & STREAM Camps	38,535	52,302	90,837	
Learning Loss Bridge Camps	13,375	16,131	29,506	
ALL	51,910	68,433	120,343	

 Districts saw higher attendance in elementary grades, compared to middle school grades







Districts are required to give participating students a pre- and post-test to gauge student progress in English Language Arts and math. Districts must report the results to the department by September 1 of each year.

ELA

- Overall, data showed an improvement of 5.97 percentage points
- Elementary grades saw a **7.34** percentage point improvement
- Middle school grades saw a 0.66 percentage point improvement
- No discernable difference in improvements between economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged students
- Improving ELA, compared to math, typically takes longer.

Math

- Overall, data showed an improvement of 10.49 percentage points
- Elementary grades saw an improvement of 11.66 percentage points
- Middle school grades saw an improvement of 6 percentage points
- Compared to elementary school students, economically disadvantaged students in middle school improved more than their non-economically disadvantaged peers



Summer Camps: Budgets

Summer Camps: \$116,820,000

Districts have drawn down a little over one-third of funds for summer camps. This is not unexpected, as the timing for many camps overlapped FY21 and FY22 and districts are still processing end of year close for FY21.

Camp	Pending	Total Spent	Grand Total
Summer Learning Camps	\$41,423,977.55	\$28,596,363.43	\$70,020,340.98
After School STREAM Mini Camps	\$14,079,527.62	\$5,317,328.36	\$19,396,855.98
Learning Loss Bridge Camps	\$16,576,461.34	\$10,826,341.71	\$27,402,803.05
Grand Total	\$72,079,966.51	\$44,740,033.50	\$116,820,000.01

Transportation: \$18,500,000

In total, 134 districts opted to participate in transportation grants, and approximately 35% of the funds have been requested for reimbursement. (*Note: 7 districts that opted to participate did not submit budgets in ePlan.*) Districts were clear that transportation funding helped ensure access to learning for students who otherwise would not have been able to attend the camps.



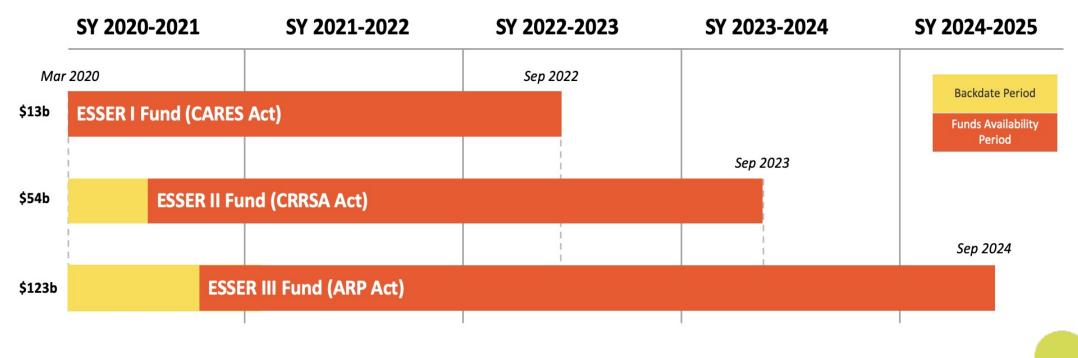
Historic Federal Funds for Education

Tennessee public schools will receive over \$4.5 BILLION in federal relief funding for use between spring 2020 and fall 2023.

- Over \$150M in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF), including PPE
- Over \$45M in competitive federal grants for literacy, CCTE, and mental health resources
- Over \$126M in GEER (Governor's discretionary relief funding)
- Over \$385M in ESSER (SEA discretionary relief funding)
-in addition to over \$3.58 billion passed directly to LEAs



Fund Availability and Planning Timelines



Spring 2020
SSER 1.0 and Initial
Recovery

January - March 2021

R 2.0 Application and Support

March - April 2021

SSER 3.0 Release and Initial Planning

April – May 2021

LEA Support and echnical Assistance

May 1 – August 1, 2021

LEA ESSER Plans Due



A Summary of TDOE Strategic Investments



ACADEMICS: All TN students will have access to a high-quality education... by learning to read and reading to learn with high-quality materials.

- \$120.7M for the Literacy Success Act and Reading360
- \$170.5M for the TN ALL Corps and summer programming*
- \$35M to support the 2022/2023 math adoption
- \$32M for teaching and learning online resources and improvements for LEAs



STUDENT READINESS: TN schools will be equipped to serve the academic and non-academic needs of all students... by developing robust career pathway opportunities and connecting students to real-time support.

- \$32.6M for Innovative High Schools and Advanced Courses
- \$17.8M for Mental Health and Family Resource Centers
- \$56.5M for K-12 open-source readiness coursework and statewide professional development



EDUCATORS: TN will set a new path for the education profession... by becoming a teacher for free.

\$21M in programs to support the educator pipeline



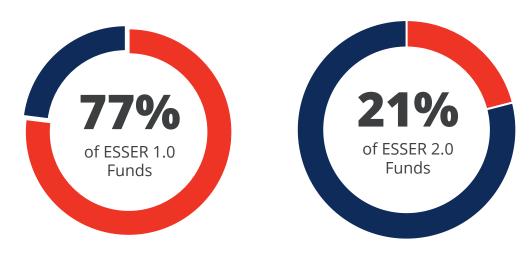
ESSER 1.0 & 2.0: District Spending Summaries

Monthly, the department compiles and publicly posts ESSER Funding summaries for all districts.

Reports may be found at:

ePlan > TDOE Resources > 2021 Relief Funding Summary

As of September 15, 2021, the following percentage of funds have been reimbursed to districts:



TN Department of				R) 1.0 Funding Summ
Education	Local	Educational Ager	ncies (Not includ	ling State Special Scho
Local Educational Agency	Allocation	Amount Paid	Amount Unpaid	% Reimbursement Request
Alamo	\$90,590.34	\$47,739.38	\$42,850.96	53%
Alcoa	\$249,118.71	\$10,575.00	\$238,543.71	4%
Anderson County	\$1,363,922.91	\$396,999.58	\$966,923.33	29%
Arlington	\$861,928.81	\$455,805.31	\$406,123.50	53%
Athens	\$579,168.59	\$395,769.49	\$183,399.10	68%
Bartlett	\$2,167,189.88	\$1,252,006.93	\$839,735.44	58%
Bedford County	\$1,689,353.92	\$1,264,531.52	\$424,822.40	75%
Bells	\$85,413.87	\$85,413.87	\$0.00	100%
Benton County	\$590,184.73	\$470,106.71	\$120,078.02	80%
Bledsoe County	\$477,863.69	\$214,985.49	\$262,878.20	45%
Blount County	\$1,968,060.89	\$723,770.53	\$1,244,290.36	37%
Bradford	\$89,758.42	\$72,781.17	\$16,977.25	81%
Bradley County	\$1,601,836.73	\$1,183,544.13	\$418,292.60	74%
Bristol	\$784,372.33	\$294,368.18	\$490,004.15	38%
Campbell County	\$1,953,048.13	\$218,438.43	\$1,734,609.70	11%
Cannon County	\$371,004.16	\$277,523.09	\$93,481.07	75%
Carter County	\$1,592,960.01	\$863,484.09	\$729,475.92	54%
Cheatham County	\$795,786.28	\$581,067.88	\$214,718.40	73%
Chester County	\$535,860.30	\$161,359.69	\$374,500.61	30%
Claiborne County	\$1,198,675.92	\$1,117,022.07	\$81,653.85	93%
Clay County	\$352,997.11	\$194,830.97	\$158,166.14	55%
Cleveland	\$1,304,557.71	\$310,635.56	\$993,922.15	24%
Clinton	\$158,763.95	\$87,680.84	\$71,083.11	55%
Cocke County	\$1,552,244.99	\$1,188,585.05	\$363,659.94	77%
Coffee County	\$807,018.49	\$468,563.47	\$338,455.02	58%
Collierville	\$2,093,807.58	\$1,327,612.75	\$534,829.37	63%
Crockett County	\$341,655.49	\$38,215.18	\$303,440.31	11%
Cumberland County	\$1,697,532.71	\$587,455.74	\$1,110,076.97	35%
Davidson County	\$26,338,350.97	\$331,058,22	\$26,007,292.75	1%
Dayton	\$256,588.01	\$255,073.95	\$1,514.06	99%
Decatur County	\$397.053.03	\$393,752.15	\$3,300.88	99%
DeKalb County	\$788,287,53	\$340,044,85	\$448,242.68	43%
Dickson County	\$1,422,463.35	\$686,716.95	\$735,746.40	48%
Dyer County	\$710,169.25	\$407,039.68	\$303,129.57	57%
Dyersburg	\$880,152.70	\$414,346.05	\$465,806.65	47%
Elizabethton	\$631,129.02	\$305,210.81	\$325,918.21	48%
Etowah	\$102,059,54	\$88,570.00	\$13,489.54	87%
Fayette County Public Schools	\$991,790.43	\$690,778.64	\$301,011.79	70%
Fayetteville	\$358,002.44	\$276,291.18	\$81,711.26	77%
Fentress County	\$736,879.11	\$354,412.74	\$313,789.72	48%
Franklin County	\$1,008,388.63	\$502,815.50	\$505.573.13	50%
Franklin County Franklin SSD				
Franklin SSD Germantown	\$388,870.40	\$350,526.48	\$38,343.92	90%
	\$1,502,672.91	\$864,885.01	\$637,787.90	38%
Gibson Co Sp Dist	\$418,445.07	\$160,278.56	\$258,166.51	30%
Giles County	\$801,985.65	\$673,357.63	\$128,628.02	84%
Grainger County Greene County	\$814,913.07 \$1,562,629.09	\$729,881.17 \$628,504.59	\$85,031.90	90%

ESSER 3.0 District Plans

Districts must submit the following plans as outlined by the state and in alignment with federal requirements:

1. Needs Assessment

 A data snapshot helped to inform the district's community engagement approach, as required for ESSER 3.0 funding.

2. Community Engagement Checklist

 An outline of who the district meaningfully consulted with to get input and feedback on their Public Plan, including but not limited to students, families, school and district administrators, teachers, civil rights organizations.

3. Health and Safety Plan

 A federally required component to outline how the district will maintain the health and safety of stakeholders and the extent to which it has adopted policies established by the CDC. Must be updated every 6 months.

4. Public ESSER Plan

 This document outlines the overall strategy of how the district will spend federal relief funding and address the impact of lost instructional time.

5. Spending Plan

 A companion to the Public ESSER Plan, this is the technical spending plan and budget submitted to the department in ePlan.



DISTRICT: Public Plan
Needs Assessment for ESSER 3.0

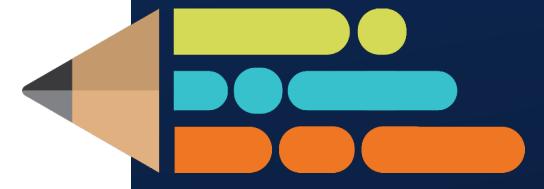
NOTE: If any of your answers to the following questions require additional space, please use the supplemental blank pages at the end of this document.

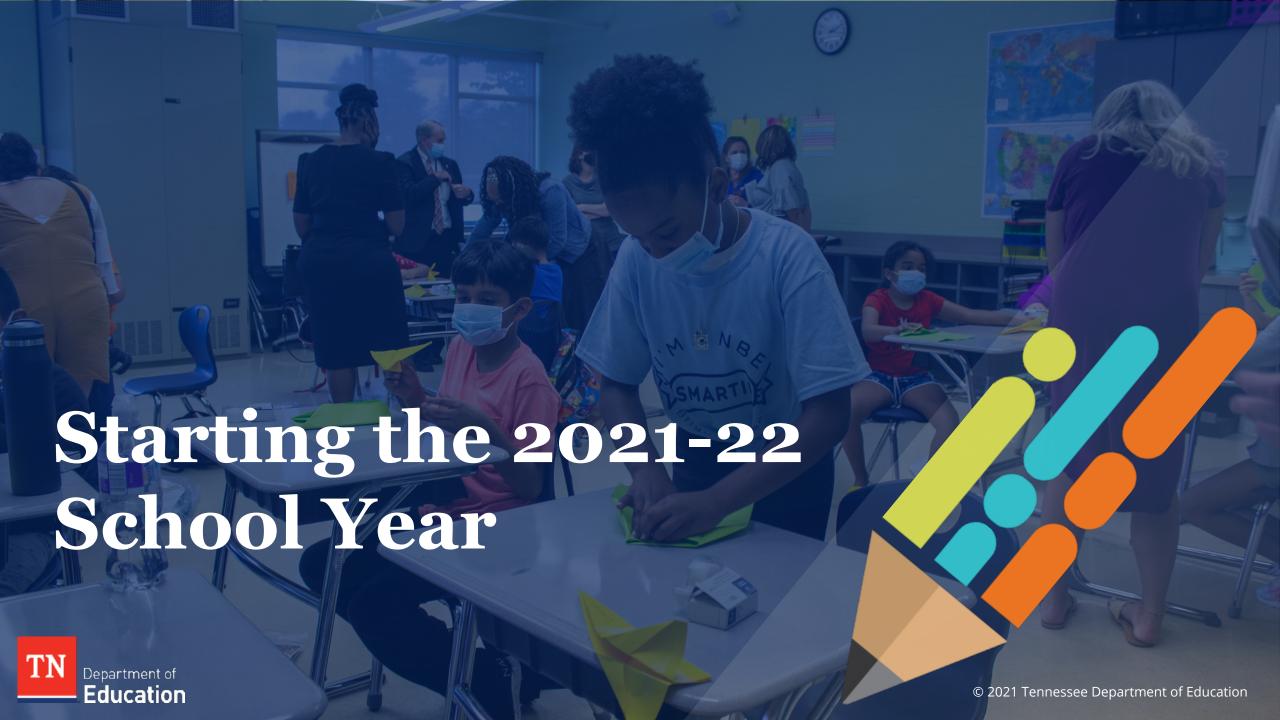


Plan Status

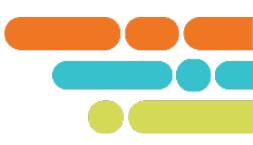
- All 725 plans were due to TDOE by August 27, 2021.
 - Humphreys County deadline extended to Oct. 15 due to flood.
- Plans (both translated and accessible) are required to be posted publicly on the district and department's websites within 30 days of approval.

Plan Name	Approved	Not Approved
Needs Assessment	89	57
Community Engagement Checklist	87	59
Health & Safety Plan	68	78
Public ESSER Plan	Pending	Pending
Spending Plan	Pending	Pending

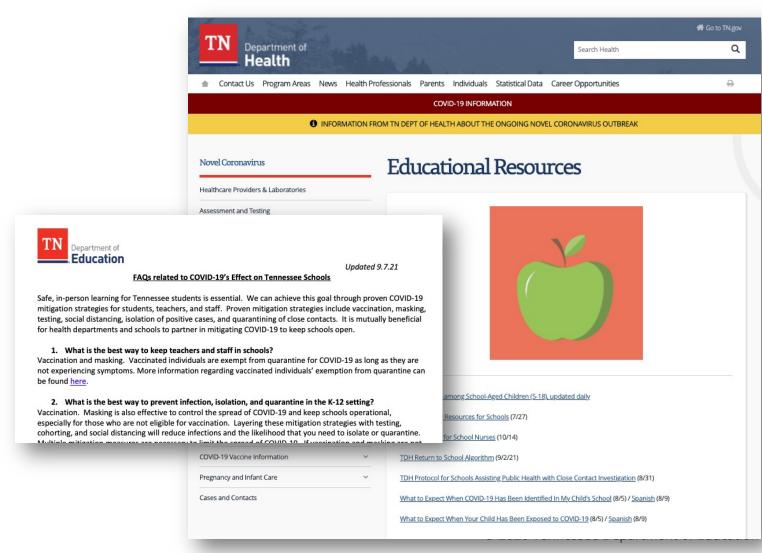




2021-22 SY: Health Guidance



- Guidance from the Tennessee Department of Health & local health departments
- Local School Board Policies
- TDOE information sharing on weekly statewide superintendent calls
- School Reopening Resources & Toolkits



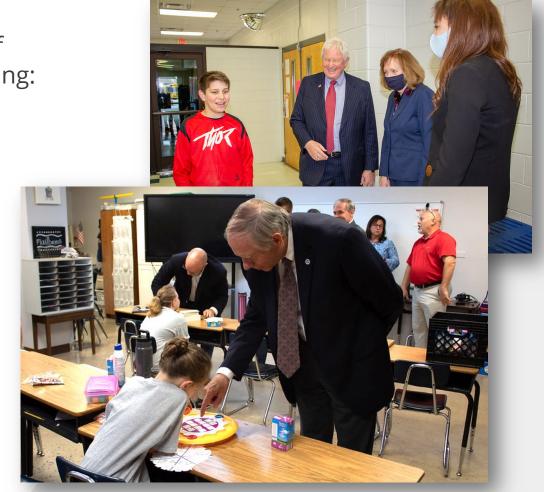


2021-22 SY Remote Learning: State Board of Education's Rules

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the State Board of Education has promulgated four rules for remote learning:

- 1. Continuous Learning Plans Emergency Rule 0520-01-17 Approved at June 22, 2020 meeting
- 2. Continuous Learning Plans Permanent Rule 0520-01-17 Approved at April 12, 2021 meeting
- 3. School Health Policies Emergency Rule 0520-01-13-.01 Approved at July 1, 2021 meeting
- 4. Virtual Education Emergency Rule 0520-01-03-.05

 Approved at July 1, 2021 meeting



2021-22 SY Remote Learning: COVID-19 Relief Waiver

When districts can *demonstrate and document* COVID-19-related needs in their school communities that necessitate a temporary shift to remote instruction for classrooms or entire schools, the Commissioner is entertaining waiver requests for districts to provide temporary remote instruction at the *classroom and school level*. Approved waivers are valid for up to seven calendar days.

- Launched evening of Friday, August 27th
- 33 waiver requests received since opening (as of 9/21 3:00 pm)
 - Approved: 26
 - Partially Approved: 1
 - Denied: 2
 - Ineligible/Waiver Not Needed: 4

Waiver Response Time: The Department reviews waiver requests three times a day at 9am, 12 noon, and 3pm CT and responds in writing to the district as quickly as possible.

Average response time for all requests, including those submitted overnight or on weekends, is **under 3 hours**. Excluding night and weekend requests, the average response time is **under 1 hour.**



Local Education Agency Waiver Request Application: COVID-19 Relief

Upon application by the local education agency (LEA) for one (1) or more of its classrooms or schools, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-201 (d), the commissioner of education will consider waivers of the provisions of Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. Chapters 0520-01-03 and 0520-01-13 related to remote instruction to the extent necessary to allow students affected at the classroom or school level by COVID-19 isolation or quarantine to participate in remote instruction. This waiver process is not required for individual students on quarantine.

Waivers will only be considered when a LEA can document and demonstrate a significant impact of COVID-19 quarantine or isolation on school operations, impacting students, teachers, and/or staff. Please note, if a waiver request is granted to a school, all extracurricular activities for that school must also be cancelled.

Please submit completed applications to <u>Commissioner, Schwinn@tn.gov</u>, Following review by the commissioner or designee, the local education agency will be notified in writing if the waiver request application is approved or denied. If approved, the waiver will only be valid for seven (?) calendar days. If conditions warranting a waiver persist, then the LEA may submit additional waivers.

Local Education Agency			
Street	City	Zip	
Director of Schools (Signature)		Date	

Number of classrooms for which you are requesting a waiver:

		In Quarantine or Isolation					
Grade of Classroom	Name of School	# of Teachers	% of Teachers	# of Staff	% of Staff	# of Students	% of Students
			¥			7	

Please explain why this waiver is necessary and in-person instruction is not feasible at this time:

Number of schools for which you are requesting a waiver:

	In Quarantine or Isolation					
Name of School	# of Teachers	% of Teachers	# of Staff	% of Staff	# of Students	% of Students

Please explain why this waiver is necessary and in-person instruction is not feasible at this time

Office of the Commissioner • 710 James Robertson Way• Nashville, TN 37219 • tn.gov/education

COVID-19 District Information Dashboard

This school year, the COVID-19 District Information Dashboard launched September 14th. Districts began self-reporting the week of Labor Day.

Enables districts to optionally self-report COVID-19 case counts with the public:

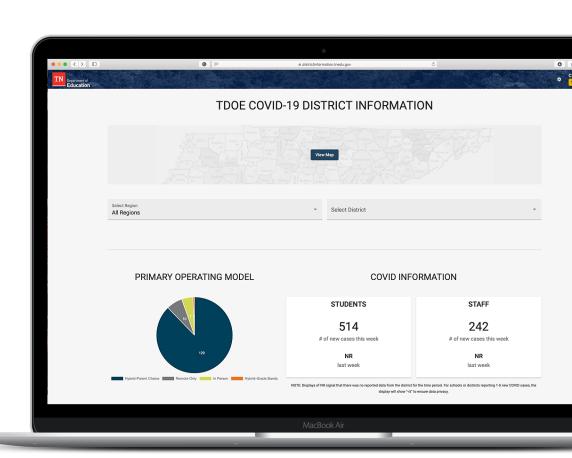
- COVID-19 case counts for students
- COVID-19 case counts for staff

Updated to align with U.S. Department of Education's ESSER reporting requirements:

- District's approved ESSER budget
- Links to the district's approved ESSER plans
- Enrollment and attendance information

Expanded to reflect COVID-19 Remote Learning:

- For approved waivers to pivot schools to remote learning, a waiver annotation appears for applicable school(s), including the start and end dates of the waiver.
- If a district is leveraging the State Board rule to provide remote instruction to individual students under quarantine, a checkbox will appear.



Thank you! Questions?



